MISSING, REPORTED SHOT

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Fayetteville N.C. Nashville, Tenn - Gordon Edwards WKDA

Novel in Nashville?

Ky / Jasp.

By CAROLYN FOCHT
Of The Dispatch Staff

Gordon Novel who brought New Orleans District Attorney Jim Garrison's assassination probe to Columbus by being caught here, is among the missing again—this time reportedly wounded.

A Nashville, Tenn., radio station told police there Sunday that Novel, 29, was wounded in the left shoulder by one of five shots fired at the station's news wagon.

POLICE THERE say they have little evidence yet to support the report.

"I have my own ideas about the situation," a Nashville officer said Monday, "but I can't say them for publication."

For the record, the police lieutenant reported there were holes in the radio news wagon that "appeared to be bullet holes and something that might be blood on a door handle."

HE SAID police were not notified of the alleged incident until 14 to 16 hours after it supposedly occurred.

Police have not been able to find Novel or Gary Edwards, a Nashville radio newsman who reportedly witnessed the shooting.

According to reports on the Nashville radio station, Novel suffered a minor shoulder wound during a barrage of gunfire outside Edwards' apartment at 2 a.m. Sunday.

A DISC jockey at the station said Novel was in town to assist Edwards in preparing news shows in which tape recordings made by Novel while working with Garrison's staff would be played.

The radio station reported the information would "blow the New Orleans investigation wide open."

The disc jockey said the tapes would show the "thing is a fraud."

RADIO PERSONNEL said they "couldn't talk" about where Novel or their newsman are, but they were planning to go ahead and release the first of the tapes sometime Monday.

Meanwhile, police are anxious to talk to both.

"We know he (Novel) wasn't treated for any wounds here in Nashville," the officer related.

POLICE SAID there were unconfirmed reports Novel may have been treated "someplace in Kentucky" while heading back to Columbus.

Novel had been in Columbus several weeks awaiting extradition proceedings to Louisiana where he has been subpenaed as a material witness by Garrison.

HE COULD not be located here Monday.

Weems - LD - Pay STA Threat

See site on Novel's life

Col, North End Agt - (Davey)

2nd man involved GARDY Edwards